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February 25, 2005

Black History Month

"Let freedom ring. From every village and hamlet, every state, every city we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children -- black men, white men, Jews, Gentiles, Catholics and Protestants -- will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, I am free at last," Martin Luther King, Aug. 28, 1963, Washington, D.C.

Black History Month is a time to celebrate and reflect on the triumphs and struggles of African Americans throughout our nation's 229-year history. Their courageous efforts, on and off the battlefield, helped make America the nation it is.

Our great military has grown tremendously from the times in 1949 when Gen. Omar Bradley, then Army chief of staff, could not conceive that white Soldiers could serve under black officers or NCOs.

Today, we are part of an institution considered by many to be "color-blind" in the best sense of that term. The integration of the Armed Forces is so complete that the nomination of blacks, or any other ethnic group, to positions of authority is so common place

that we don't even think about it. What a great achievement.

African-American Soldiers began making their mark in the fight for freedom at a time when their rights and privileges were less than those of their white colleagues. They started a heritage of service that continues today. From Crispus Attucks, the first casualty of the American Revolution during the Boston Massacre in 1770, to the Soldiers fighting today in Afghanistan and Irag: the service of African Americans in support of America is filled with distinction and honor.

Black History Week was originally called Negro History Week. Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson established the first celebration in 1926 as a means for Americans of all races to learn about African-American contributions and culture. The weeklong celebration was expanded, as a school-focused event, to a month-long observance in 1976 to help promote increased knowledge of black history and the black experience to children.

The theme of the 2005 celebration is: "The 100th Anniversary of the Niagara Movement." Led by W.E.B DuBois, John Hope and William



DA photo

Trotter, this small group of activists, including Woodson, rejected any accommodation with discrimination, and challenged the nation to grant its African American citizens the same rights given to other Americans. The Niagara Movement laid the groundwork for the civil rights movement a few decades later.

On Feb. 11, we welcomed Lee Coffee, Jr., to participate in the Headquarters' Black History Month celebration. Coffee, a Buffalo Soldier historian, discussed the significance of the Niagara Movement at a time when African Americans were still feeling the effects of slavery and oppression.

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courtesy photo

Lee N. Coffee, Jr. portrays a Buffalo Soldier during INSCOM's Black History Month Celebration.

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Coffee's words reminded us of the good that comes from remembering even the painful times in our country's history, for it is through that studied consideration that we find the determination to change those things that are wrong in America.

By commemorating the long line of African-American heroes that stretches across our nation's heritage we remind ourselves of the costs paid by all our countrymen, regardless of race, creed or gender, to ensure that "freedom and justice for all" means more to us than a catchy quote or slogan.

As the "official" time for Black History Month comes to a close, I want to encourage every Soldier and civilian in INSCOM to continue examining the contributions of Black Americans throughout the year.

Even though the month of February is designated "Black History Month," the stories of such committed and daring individuals as George Washington Carver, Sergeant Henry Parker, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Martin Luther King require, and deserve year round focus.

I encourage every Soldier and civilian in INSCOM to continue examining the contributions of African Americans throughout the year.

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Warrant helping warrants

by Sgt. 1st Class Terry Goodman
INSCOM Public Affairs

When Chief Warrant Officer Eddie Mallard arrived at the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command to become the command chief warrant officer, he was excited about providing his 40 years of Army experience to every INSCOM warrant officer, and about recruiting new Soldiers to become warrant officers.

Since his arrival last October, Mallard has met with the command's personnel and training staffs, as well as the Army's Human Resource Command, to define the responsibilities of his new role.

The job was created by the Army's Training Leader Development Panel, after determining that warrant officers throughout the Army were not receiving the professional mentorship and development that branch officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted Soldiers were receiving from their senior leaders.

"Army warrant officers were not being equally represented," Mallard said. "Based on the study's findings, they decided to place senior chief warrant officers at major commands to mentor warrant officers and to recruit qualified enlisted Soldiers into the Warrant Officers Corps."

There are several career fields that are considerably below personnel strength for warrant officers - including military intelligence. The larger



courtesy photo

Chief Warrant Officer Eddie Mallard (right) joined INSCOM last October as the command chief warrant officer.

target on Mallard's radar is the shortage of MI warrant officers in the inventory.

"Intelligence missions are still getting done," Mallard said. "However, the operational tempo for these warrants is high, and that is one of the reasons why the command chief warrant officer job was created to assist the Army with filling these valuable warrant officer positions."

The reason for the shortage can be attributed to two events, he added. When chief warrants reach 20 years in service, they typically retire and seek other employment opportunities. Secondly, with the Global War on Terrorism continuing, MI Soldiers are highly sought after by other government agencies or civilian contractors. In some

instances, Soldiers leave the Army and take a civilian job performing the same duties without relocating.

As part of his duties, Mallard will be talking with enlisted Soldiers and NCOs about becoming warrant officers versus leaving the Army for other career choices.

Eventually, he will visit every INSCOM subordinate command to educate and motivate enlisted Soldiers to become warrant officers.

"Serving the country as a warrant officer has been a great experience," said Mallard. "That's why I am still in the Army after almost 40 years."

For more information on the warrant officer program, contact Mallard at 703-428-4655.

President Bush visits troops

WIESBADEN, Germany (Army News Service) — More than 3,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen gathered at Wiesbaden Army Airfield Feb. 23 to see their commander-in-chief and hear his praise for their service in the Global War on Terrorism.

President George W.
Bush's stop at the airfield was part of a three-day series of meetings with NATO officials and European leaders. Before greeting service members, the president met with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in Mainz.

Among those at the airfield were Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division who recently returned from their deployment to Iraq.

"Laura and I were in the neighborhood and just thought we'd say hi," said Bush to a cheering crowd. "Howdy."

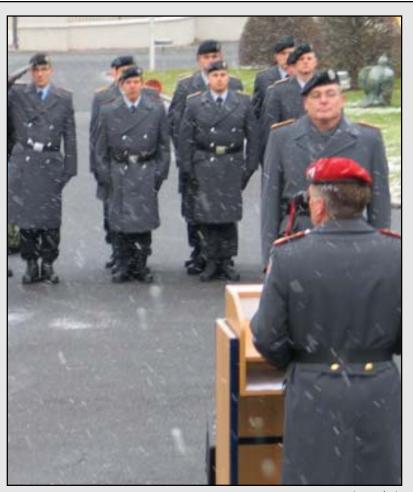
Followed by a loud "hooah" and a lot of cheering, Bush reminded many of the troops that this really wasn't the first time they received a personal appearance.

"It's good to be at the proud home of the 1st Armored Division. Some of you Iron Soldiers might have seen me before. I was the guy serving turkey," said Bush referring to a surprise visit to Old Ironsides Division Soldiers for Thanksgiving Dinner in 2003 at the division headquarters at the Baghdad International Airport.

Bush thanked military

families for their dedication, sacrifices and support.

"This was definitely worth the wait," said 1st Sgt. Mark Bell, 141st Signal Battalion, one of many who waited for a couple of hours in a tent the size of a football field.



courtesy photo

Soldiers of the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 66th MI Group participated in the change of command ceremony for the partnership unit, Feldnachrichtenzentrum der Bundeswehr, Jan. 28. Thirteen Soldiers from the battalion attended the ceremony at the Schloss Oranienstein in Dietz, Germany.

The German officials' responsibility of command passed from Oberstleutnant Dipl. (FH) Ernst Martin Klocke to Oberstleutnant Karl-Jeinz Riehs. A light snowfall gently came down as the American and German Soldiers stood side-by-side during the ceremony. But the weather didn't dampen anyone's spirits.

"I was honored to be invited," said Spc. Nicholas Carroll, one of the Soldiers selected to attend the ceremony. "I felt a sense of camaraderie as I was standing in formation."

Troops receive 'Hero Salute'

Through a new program called "Heroes Salute," service members can receive a free single-day admission to SeaWorld or Busch Gardens parks throughout the country.

The offer, which is available to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as three direct dependents runs through the end of the year.

Any active duty, active reserve, ready reserve service or National Guard member is entitled to free admission under the program.

Service members need only register, either online at: http://www.herosalute.com/ or in the entrance plaza of participating parks, and show a Department of Defense photo ID card. As many as three direct dependents of military personnel also are entitled to free admission. Dependents may take advantage of the offer without their service member, though an adult must accompany minor dependents.

Busch Gardens Williamsburg and SeaWorld San Antonio are seasonal operations, and remain closed until spring 2005. Military personnel interested in visiting those



parks should check operating schedules at the Web site. The remaining parks, SeaWorld Orlando, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay and SeaWorld San Diego are open year round.

And the winner is ...

Nominations are currently being accepted throughout the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command for the National Military Intelligence Association's Lt. Col. Arthur D. Nicholson Award.

In 1985, NMIA instituted the Lt. Col. Arthur D. Nicholson Award as a testimonial to professional intelligence excellence and exceptional dedication to duty. Nicholson lost his life while performing duties in East Germany as a member of the U.S. Military Liaison Mission. The award is presented annually to a deserving, outstanding Army officer, enlisted or civilian intelligence professional.

The prestigious award will be presented to this year's recipient May 15, during the NMIA Awards Banquet at the McLean Hilton, McLean, Va. Other NMIA awards will be presented to members of the Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Defense Intelligence Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-intelligence Agency, Homeland Security, and the National Reconnaissance Office. All presentations are made in recognition and honor of individuals who have provided outstanding intelligence contributions and service to their respective organizations and who represent the absolute epitome of intelligence professionalism.

The deadline for nominations is March 18. For more information on the award or what to include in the nomination packet, contact Gloria Rallis at (703) 428-4681, or Ron Gunter, (703) 428-4687.





Guest Speaker: Ann E.W. Stone, National Women's History Museum Everyone is invited to attend.

March 14, 2005

JGCR, 10:00